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aged. The subscription price of the annual volumes is £1, 10s, to the public.

LEIDY'S RHIZOPODS OF NORTH AMERICA.¹—This magnificent volume, with its wealth of illustration, is the fruits of four years of constant study of the fresh-water Rhizopods of this country. The author has not only studied them in the Western Territories, but also at various points along the Atlantic coast from Nova Scotia to Philadelphia. The Rhizopods are the lowest forms of life with the exception of the Monera of Haeckel, of which but a single species has been detected by Prof. Leidy in this country. As a full and thoroughly well illustrated account of these organism this volume will prove of service to the general public interested in the discussions regarding protoplasm, for here are pictured with wonderful accuracy and grace these animated bits of protoplasm; to the teacher, who cannot always command even a single *Amœba* and much less a series of them, here is presented on a single plate the *Amœba proteus* in a dozen different attitudes, drawn in colors, in some cases half as large as one's hand; and this plate is succeeded by forty-seven colored chromo-lithographs, well engraved, though we doubt not falling far short of the exquisite original sketches of the author, who is not excelled by any living naturalist or zoological artist in the accuracy and artistic finish of his drawings.

Moreover the study of these minute changeable protean forms is most difficult in itself, and their truthful representation still more so. While, then, the volume has a high philosophical and educational value, it will stimulate naturalists to cultivate this field, and to elucidate the modes of development of these forms. To the palæontologist the work will have a high value, since allied or possibly the same shelled forms may be discovered in the lake formations of the Western Territories. This work forms, consequently, one of the most important volumes of final reports of the great survey now unfortunately closed, and which has done so much to spread among our people a knowledge of the natural resources of the Western Territories. Biology embraces palæontology, the latter is more than half of geology, so that no scientific geological survey can do its work properly without reference to these sciences. The cost to the survey of the field work, the press-work, and, we believe, the illustrations of this volume were but nominal, the printing of the volume with the necessary illustrations having been separately ordered by Congress. As the author states, "Whatever may be thought of the pertinence of publishing such works as the present one with the Reports of the Geological Survey of the Territories, to remove any misapprehension in the matter I deem it proper to state that my contributions have been

¹ *Report of the United States Geological Survey of the Territories.* Vol. XII, F. V. Hayden, in charge. Fresh-water Rhizopods of North America. By JOSEPH LEIDY, M.D. Washington, 1879. 4to, pp. 324, 48 plates.

given without pecuniary recompense. In my own judgment, Prof. Hayden has acted with the most enlightened view in authorizing and encouraging such natural history investigations as would be facilitated by explorations of the country in which his geological surveys were conducted. With the exception of the cost of publishing the present report, the only additional expense to which I put the survey during my explorations in the West amounted to about \$222." The same may be said of at least one other of the bulky quarto volumes of the survey, and we suppose of others.

The number of species of these fresh-water Rhizopods living in our country is unexpectedly large; numbers of them are common to Europe and North America, and many are found not only in the Eastern States but also in the lakes of the Uintah mountains of Wyoming, showing that the forms are well nigh cosmopolitan. They occur in the summer time on the under side of floating leaves of water plants and especially among *Sphagnum* moss. "A drop of water squeezed from a little pinch of bog-moss has often yielded scores of half a dozen genera and a greater number of species."

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—The Microscope in Medicine. By Lionel S. Beale, M.B., F.R.S., etc. Fourth edition; illustrated, and much enlarged. 8vo, pp. 1-XXXI, 1-539. London, Churchill; Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston. 1878. From the publishers.

Danalite from the Iron Mine, Bartlett, New Hampshire—Picolite from a Serpentine quarry in Florida. By M. E. Wadsworth, Ph.D. (Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., xx, Oct. 1, 1879.) Pages 284-287. From the author.

A Contribution to the Ornithology of Minnesota. Being notes upon Summer Birds of Grant and Traverse counties. (Nuttall Ornith. Club. Bulletin, Vol. v, No. 1, 1880, pp. 11-20.) From the author.

Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, Vol. v, No. 3. 8vo, pp. 331-520. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1879. From the Survey.

The American Monthly Microscopical Journal, Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan., 1880. New York, Thompson & Moreau, 51 and 53 Maiden lane. From the editor.

Report of Geological Explorations during 1878-79, with maps and sections. James Hector, C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S., Director. 8vo, pp. 135, pls. 6. Wellington, New Zealand, 1879. From the director.

The Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, July, 1879, Vol. II, No. 2. 8vo, pp. 71-118, pls. 9-10. From the society.

Le Naturaliste. Journal des Echanges et des Nouvelles. Ire Année, No. 16, Nov. 1879. 4to, Paris, 23 rue de la Monnaie. Emile Deyrolle, Directeur.

Conspectus systematicus et geographicus mammalium tam viventium quam fossilium. Catalogue systématique, synonomique et géographique des Mammifères Vivant et Fossiles par le Docteur E.-L. Trouessart, avec la collaboration de M. Marius Aubert. Fascicule 1.—Primates (Simiæ, Prosimæ, Chiroptera). (Extrait de la Revue et Magasin de Zoologie, 1878.) 8vo, pp. 93. From the author.

Atti della Società Toscana di Scienze Naturali residente in Pisa, Processi verbali, Vol. II. 8vo, pp. 16, 1879. From the society.

Report of the Commissioners of Fisheries of the State of California for the years 1878 and 1879. 8vo, pp. 63, Sacramento, 1879. From the commissioners.

Notes on New England Isopoda. By Oscar Harger. (Proc. U. S. National Museum.) 8vo, pp. 157-165, no date. From the author.

A comparison of the Eocene Mollusca of the South-eastern United States and Western Europe in relation to the determination of identical forms. By Angelo